Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, South Dakota was founded with hard work, perseverance, dedication to duty, and concern for others, and each of these attributes can be ascribed to Doug Hofer, who will retire from the Department of Game, Fish, and Parks after serving 44 years of service; and,

Whereas, Doug, the longest serving state park director in the nation, has devoted his career to building and improving the South Dakota State Parks to create the best park system for residents and visitors; and,

Whereas, Doug has lead the effort to create state's first new state park in decades called Good Earth State Park at Blood Run. The new Good Earth State Park will offer new recreational opportunities along with education opportunities for generations to come; and,

Whereas, The State Park system has been through many transformational changes with Doug's leadership, some of which includes, implementing a camping reservation system, integrating the Missouri River parks from the Corps of Engineers, keeping boat ramps functional along the fluctuating Missouri River, expanding education programming opportunities at our park facilities, branding the parks as outdoor wellness centers, and restoring historic Fort Sisseton; and,

Whereas, Doug plans to continue to bestow his talents with the state after his retirement to ensure the creation of the newly proposed Spearfish Canyon State Park in the Black Hills and the completion of Good Earth State Park at Blood Run; and,

Whereas, In spite of working long hours and weekends, Doug has managed to successfully hunt pheasants with his trusted golden retrievers, pursue dozens of deer with bow and arrow, and to hook schools of walleyes from the Missouri River to provide food for his family and serve as a trusted "guide" to many friends; and,

Whereas, Doug has made countless significant contributions to the parks and recreation industry, and it is fitting and proper as Governor to make special note of this outstanding South Dakotan on this momentous occasion:

Now, Therefore, I, Dennis Daugaard, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim April 1, 2016, as

DOUG HOFER DAY

in South Dakota, and I join his family, friends, and colleagues in offering him best wishes for an enjoyable retirement.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Thirty-first Day of March in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Sixteen.

Dennis Daugaard

Dennis Daugaard, Governor

Attest:

Shantel Krebs

Shantel Krebs, Secretary of State